

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 remain pending for examination. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

In view of the present amendments to Claim 4, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding objection to the drawings under 37 CFR §1.83(a), the objection to the specification and rejection of Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn. Specifically, Claim 4 has been amended so that the claimed invention is clearly and fully described within the written description and drawings of the specification. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, Claim 4 has been amended to eliminate all antecedent basis problems, and therefore Applicants request that the outstanding rejection thereof under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully maintain their traversal to the rejection of Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Suh and Lee, and further request that the rejection be withdrawn since the cited references were presented at the Fourth International Conference on Spoken Language Processing (ICSLP) on October 3-6, 1996, which is after the foreign priority date of December 22, 1995, that has been claimed for the present application. Applicants herewith submit a translation of the foreign priority documents in accordance with

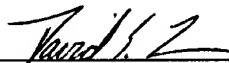
37 CFR §1.55. In view of the verified translation of the priority documents, Applicants request that the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

Lastly, Applicants herewith submit a revised declaration to overcome the objection thereto set forth in the previous Office Action of March 18, 1998. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (087.35020X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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